

# THE PLAYFAIR SCHOOL OF MIDWIFERY

*Annual Announcement*

1899

*Incorporated in the State of Illinois.*

*Diplomas Recognized by the Illinois State Board of Health.*

OFFICE AND SCHOOL  
HARVEY BUILDING, 169 SOUTH CLARK STREET  
TELEPHONE, EXPRESS 284  
CHICAGO

OFFICERS:

FRANCES DICKINSON, M. D., Pres.

EFFIE L. LOBDELL, M. D., Treas. and Sec'y.

THE PLAYFAIR  
SCHOOL OF  
MIDWIFERY.

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HARVEY BUILDING,  
167-169-172 SOUTH CLARK STREET,  
CHICAGO, ILL.



CLASS OF 1899.

# **Playfair School of Midwifery** **Certificate** **Obstetrical Nursing**

*To All Whom These Presents May Come*  
*Greeting,*

*This is to certify that*  
*has attended one full term of lectures in the Playfair School of*  
*Midwifery, satisfactorily passed, all examinations attended and*  
*nursed the required number of cases of labor and is duly qualified*  
*to do Obstetrical Nursing.*



*Signed*



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## INTRODUCTION.

"The universe shall henceforth speak for you  
And witness, She who did this thing, was born  
To do it; claims her license in her work,  
And so with more works."—Aurora Leigh.

History records that since the time of Moses, midwifery has always been mainly in the hands of women and in many countries of Europe no other usage has ever prevailed. The first regular French medical society included within its organization the "Company of Midwives," and from that time down to the present it has been the custom in France to give to these women a regular education, terminating in sufficient examinations. Other countries in Europe do the same and in no other country than our own, except England, has the practice of midwifery received so little attention and fallen into so general disrepute.

The name assigned to the practitioner, "midwife," and its Latin synonym "obstetrix," further show the art to have been considered essentially a woman's work and in neither language is there a masculine equivalent. According to Dr. Aveling, who has given us a large amount of very interesting information about the history and position of midwives in England, we find that not only were there no provisions for instruction, except such as were afforded

by the clergy, but that this instruction referred especially to their duties in baptism of the child, and cautioned them against the practice of charms or sorcery while in attendance on the woman. Birth records were kept by the church and the curates were the only instructors. No books on midwifery were allowed to be published either by the midwife or by physicians (it being considered highly indecent) until in 1653 Dr. Harvey published one. However, up to that time the prejudice to a male attendant in time of labor was so great that not until the invention of forceps by Peter Chamberlen, and the idea fostered by male practitioners "that a surgical instrument must be controlled by the hand of a surgeon," was it possible for a male practitioner to gain admittance to the lying-in chamber.

Women of good education and social standing, who had obtained their training on the continent, were to be found following this calling and were held in high esteem, much as our trained nurse of today, but as the possibility of obtaining proper instruction in this special branch grew less and the practice of employing male physicians became more general, midwifery gradually fell into the hands of the poorer and more ignorant women. Up to the present time, in America, the practice of midwives has had very little attention from the profession or lawmakers except to condemn and restrict and consequently *our* midwifery practice is in very much the same condition.

Owing to the fact that the population of

America is so largely made up of the foreign element, among whom it is universally customary to employ a midwife, it is plainly evident that the demand for her will not decrease. At present the midwives are likewise largely foreigners who, if trained at all, are more or less ignorant of the laws and customs of this country, and owing to the defective legislation in regard to their practice we are constantly confronted with the faults which result from our want of appreciation of their needs (since our laws recognize their rights to exist) and only by educating and training can we hope to solve the problem of perfecting their system of work and properly controlling it.

In Chicago alone, about 2-5 of the births, i. e., about 25,000 women annually, are attended by midwives. In the country districts in other states as well as in this there is a demand for women trained in this branch especially, to assist the general practitioner. This is well demonstrated by the fact that many of our students have been sent to us direct by physicians in need of such service, and the results have been very gratifying.

As a rule, the patients who employ midwives only cannot afford to employ a physician even if they could obtain his service for a very low fee, for they would still be in need of a nurse.

It is the object of the Playfair School of Midwifery to furnish instruction to capable and intelligent women in the art of attending her fellow-woman in labor, and caring for the mother and child



during the lying-in period in accordance with our latest and best knowledge, and to interest such a class of women in this work that by proper opportunities of instruction we will remove the present prevailing prejudice against the midwife and finally restore her to her proper reputable position in the profession, not as a competitor to the physician but able to conduct normal labor with safety, and, what is perhaps of greater importance, to recognize early the nature of pathological cases and send for the timely help of the physician.

It is also one of the most important objects of the school to teach the midwifery students the rules of conduct that should govern them in order that they may become safe advisers for their patients in the moral perplexities that are sure to arise in their practice.

We are also exceptionally well prepared to furnish opportunity for training to such women as do not care to fully qualify themselves as midwives but who desire to obtain sufficient training to do obstetrical nursing. For these, we have a special certificate for obstetrical nursing which is given at the end of five months' attendance and the necessary clinical work.

Midwives already in practice are cordially invited to attend any or all of the courses, and specimens for our museum and reports of interesting cases are earnestly solicited. Graduate nurses of regular training schools, who desire more work in obstetrics than is procurable in the general hospital training, are urged



to investigate this for the special advantages it offers them as a post-graduate course.

The school has been in existence over three years and has more than kept its promises to its students in providing thorough theoretical and clinical instruction. Many students have had an opportunity to attend more than the twelve cases required for graduation. Because of its high grade requirements of students who graduate and its superior merits as a school we have obtained the recognition of the Illinois State Board of Health, which permits its graduates to practice midwifery without further examination.

" OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

" ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF HEALTH,

" SPRINGFIELD, November 19, 1897.

" EFFIE L. LOBDELL, M. D.,

" *Secretary Playfair School of Midwifery, Chicago.*

" DEAR DOCTOR: At the regular meeting of the Illinois State Board of Health, held in Chicago, October 5, 1897, a resolution was passed recognizing the diplomas of the Playfair School of Midwifery, issued after October, 1897, in full, without examination.

" Respectfully,

"(Signed)

J. A. EGAN, *Secretary.*"

The school has three graduates now practicing and several, who have attended one term and received their certificate as Obstetrical Nurse are also

practicing in Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and Pennsylvania.

The school in its hospital, dispensary and out-practice departments has cared for about 500 cases. The nationalities attended have been American, Greek, Irish, Italian, German, Swede, Bohemian, Polish, Norwegian, Danish, Finnish, Belgian, Holland, French, Hungarian, English, Negro, Russian. The ages of the patients have ranged from 14 to 42 years.

Recently there has been added to the plant a Playfair Home for Midwife Students where out of town pupils may procure lodging, etc., at very reasonable rates. This home is associated with the Lying-In Dispensary, which is open night and day to patients, with special hours for clinic, to which the student is admitted. This is located in a district which furnishes abundant material and practice. A physician is constantly in attendance to accompany a pupil midwife to a case.

We solicit the co-operation of physicians in our work.

## FACULTY OF THE PLAYFAIR SCHOOL OF MIDWIFERY.

ERNST SAURENHAUS, M. D.,  
 Professor of Anatomy and Physiology,  
 Professor of Normal and Pathological Labor,  
 582 La Salle Ave., Telephone, North 668

ADOLPH GEHRMAN, M. D.,  
 Professor of Bacteriology,  
 103 State St., Telephone, Main 2937.

FREDERICK D. MARSHALL, M. D.,  
 Professor of Mechanism and Management of Labor,  
 679 W. Adams St., Telephone, West 345.

HOMER O. BATES, M. D.,  
 Professor of Pathology of Pregnancy and Labor,  
 278 Marshfield Ave., Telephone, West 1136.

CHAS. O'BYRNE, M. D.,  
 Professor of Chemistry,  
 747 W. Monroe St., Telephone, West 555.

LUCY WAITE, B. A., M. D.,  
 Demonstrator of Pelvic Anatomy,  
 98 Loomis St., Telephone, West 99.

FRANCES DICKINSON, M. D.,  
 Professor of Ophthalmology,  
 Harvey Medical Settlement, Telephone, Central 284

ELISABETH J. TOMPKINS, M. D.,  
 Professor of Dermatology,  
 4624 Indiana Ave





DISPENSARY, EXAMINATION ROOM.

MARY MARS, M. D.,

Professor of Embryology and Hygiene,  
Supt. Playfair Lying-in Dispensary and Midwife Home,  
247 W. Polk St., Telephone, Central 284.

MARTHA J. NEWBY, M. N.,

Professor of Practical Care of Mother and Child,  
Harvey Medical Settlement, Telephone, Central 284.

EFFIE L. LOBDELL, M. D.,

Clinical Professor and Superintendent of Out-Practice.  
Harvey Medical Settlement, Telephone, Central 284.

For further information call or address,

EFFIE L. LOBDELL, M. D., Secretary,  
160 S. Clark St., Chicago, 11



LECTURE ROOM OF PLAYFAIR SCHOOL OF MIDWIFERY.



### REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION.

All applicants for admission must furnish:

1. A certificate of good moral character, signed by a minister or a physician in good standing.
2. Evidence of their ability to read and write correctly in English or German.

### ADMISSION TO ADVANCED STANDING AND SPECIAL COURSES.

Midwives graduated from other recognized schools, or those who are licensed and have been in practice three years, and nurses graduated from reputable training schools, may be admitted to advanced standing by passing an entrance examination and may come up for graduation at the end of one term.

Special arrangements will be made with licensed midwives or graduated nurses, not candidates for a degree, by which they may attend lectures upon payment of the matriculation fee.

Anyone, not a candidate for graduation, who desires special instruction in any branch taught in the school, may enter the class upon matriculating and paying the fee for such course.

### PLAN OF INSTRUCTION.

The course comprises two terms of five months each. It consists of daily teaching of three hours daily, from 9 to 12 o'clock, A. M., by lectures, demonstrations, recitations, laboratory work and frequent examinations, with practical observation and nursing of cases of labor and child-bed.

Instruction is given in English and German. In the laboratory work and some of the demonstrations, both English and German students meet together, explanations being given in one language and repeated in the other. In other cases parallel courses are given to both classes.

### METHOD OF INSTRUCTION.

General anatomy and physiology, as well as special anatomy and physiology of the pelvis, is taught by lectures and demonstrations on the skeleton, cadaver, manikin and charts.

The mechanism of normal labor is very carefully demonstrated on the manikin, while instruction in the pathology of labor is given to enable the students to recognize abnormalities of position and obstructions to delivery in order that the timely assistance of the physician may be called.

The physiology and pathology of pregnancy is also described so that the student may be able to give good advice for the management of normal pregnancy and likewise recognize pathological conditions.

The instruction in the care of mother and child is a course in obstetrical nursing of the most practical character.

The clinical instruction is given in the Playfair Lying-In Hospital Dispensary, which has abundant clinical material.

The students have an excellent opportunity for observation and practical work in the obstetrical wards of several hospitals.

The clinical instruction embraces detailed practical teaching in disinfection, in internal and external examination, in management of labor, in taking of temperature, in care of the breast, also in bathing, clothing and feeding the child.

The course of disinfection is designed to show the nature and danger of bacteria in order to explain the importance and meaning of disinfection. This course will be illustrated by cultures of bacteria, and they will be used to show the principles of inoculation, contamination and growth of bacteria. Students will be given opportunity to make cultures for themselves.

The course in chemistry is designed to give an elementary practical knowledge of urinalysis to enable the student to recognize diseases of the kidneys in pregnancy, that she may call for the help of a physician, when necessary, and to teach the nature and danger of chemical disinfectants and the mode of preparing solutions. The use of the thermometer is thoroughly taught.

In embryology the student is taught the origin and growth of the fetus, as well as the anatomy and physiology of the newborn child.

Special courses are also given in the ethics of midwifery



MARY THOMPSON HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

Attendance on six cases of labor under direction of the Obstetrician of the Hospital—in its ward—is given each student of the **PLAYFAIR SCHOOL OF MIDWIFERY** holding ticket.

Handsome certificate given each student who attends.





and the duties of midwives to each other, to their patient, to the medical profession and to the state; in diseases of the eye of the new-born, etc.

#### FEES.

Not returnable nor transferable to another year.

Matriculation (payable but once).....	\$ 5 00
General lecture fee.....	50 00
Hospital ticket (good for one year) . . . . .	5 00
Laboratory material:	

The deposit fee for the use of laboratory materials will be five dollars. This fee will be returned to the student, after deducting cost of material and breakage, at the end of the course.

Next term begins September 4, 1899, and closes January 24, 1900.

Following term begins February 7, 1900, and closes June 27, 1900.

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION.

Candidates for the degree of Graduate Midwife, diploma of which gives the right to practice midwifery in Illinois, must comply with the following requirements:

1. Two terms attendance in a recognized school of midwifery, the last of which shall be in this school.
2. At least 80 per cent attendance on all lectures.
3. Shall have passed satisfactory examinations in all branches taught in the college.
4. Satisfactory evidence of having attended twelve cases of labor.
5. Payment in full of all fees.

Directors reserve the right to expel any pupil at any time for misconduct, or infringement of rules or regulations of this institution.

The student will not be allowed to demand of any patient to whom she may be sent recompense for services or expense.

### Aufnahmebedingungen.

1. Ein Attest über gute sittliche Führung von einem Geistlichen oder approbirten Arzte ausgestellt.

2. Die Fähigkeit eine der beiden Sprachen, in welcher unterrichtet wird — Englisch oder Deutsch — schreiben und lesen zu können.

### Dauer des Curfus.

Der Curfus umfaßt zwei Abschnitte von je fünfmonatlicher Dauer und beginnt am 4. September 1899.

Der erste Abschnitt fängt am 4. September 1899 an und endigt am 24. Januar 1900. Der zweite beginnt am 7. Februar 1900 und schließt am 27. Juni 1900.

### Unterricht.

Der Unterricht wird in englischer und deutscher Sprache erteilt und zwar je nach Bedürfnis in Parallelclassen oder gemeinsamen Lectionen.

Derselbe zerfällt in einen theoretischen und praktischen Theil.

Der theoretische Unterricht, welcher durch Vorzeigung von Präparaten, Instrumenten und geeignetem lebenden Materiale nach Möglichkeit anschaulich gemacht werden soll, um das Verständnis zu erleichtern, wird täglich mit Ausnahme der Sonntage, von 1—4 Uhr Nachmittags gegeben werden.

In der ersten Hälfte des Curfus wird Alles, was zur Ausübung der regulären Hebammenpraxis nothwendig ist, gelehrt werden.

In der zweiten, sollen durch Wiederholungen die bereits erworbenen Kenntnisse befestigt und wo nöthig erweitert werden.

Im Laufe des Curfus finden am Ende eines jeden Monats Wiederholungen und Prüfungen statt.

### Unterrichtsfächer.

1. Kiepfis und Antiepfis. Hier soll durch Vorzeigung von Präparaten, Culturen und event. durch Thierexperimente den

Schülerinnen das Wesen und die Gefährlichkeit der Bacterien drastisch vor Augen geführt werden um das Verständniß für die Nothwendigkeit und die Technik der Desinfection zu erleichtern.

Damit verbunden sind praktische Uebungen in der Herstellung von Desinfections Mitteln resp. deren Lösungen, sowie in der Desinfection der Hände und Instrumente.

2. Lehre von der Anatomie und Physiologie der Neugeborenen und Erwachsenen mit Demonstration von Zeichnungen und Präparaten.

3. Lehre der normalen und pathologischen Schwangerschaft mit Demonstration und Untersuchung von normalen und pathologischen Fällen.

4. Lehre von der normalen und pathologischen Geburt mit Demonstration und Uebungen am Phantom.

5. Lehre von dem normalen und pathologischen Wochenbett verbunden mit Uebungen in der Thermometrie.

6. Pflege der Wöchnerin und des Neugeborenen.

7. Lehre von den geburtshilflichen Handgriffen mit Uebungen am Phantom.

8. Zusammenfassende Wiederholung aller krankhaften Erscheinungen bei Mutter und Kind, welche ärztliche Hilfe erfordern.

9. Vorträge über die sociale Stellung der Hebammen, deren Verhalten zum Arzte, Gesetz etc.

### **Praktische Uebungen.**

Der praktische Unterricht besteht in einer möglichst häufigen Untersuchung von Schwangeren, der Beobachtung von Geburten in Hospitälern sowie Leitung von normalen und pathologischen Geburten in der Stadt unter Aufsicht eines der Anstaltsärzte.

Schon jetzt ist eine genügend große Anzahl von poliklinischen Geburten vorhanden, welche in schneller Zunahme begriffen sind.

### **Diplome.**

Diplome, welche zur gezielten Ausübung der Hebammen-

praxis berechtigten, werden nur auf Grund einer bestandenen Prüfung ausgestellt.

Zugelassen werden Schülerinnen der Anstalt, welche die Aufnahmebedingungen erfüllt haben, ein Cursus von 10 Monaten absolviert und wenigstens 80% der Unterrichtsstunden besucht haben und 12 Krankengeschichten übr. 12 selbst beobachtete Geburten beibringen können. Ferner solche Candidaten, welche an einer anderen anerkannten Lehranstalt unterrichtet worden sind und wenigstens, einen halben Cursus an dieser Anstalt mitgemacht, sowie die Aufnahmebedingungen erfüllt haben.

### Specialcurse.

Bereits diplomirte Hebammen, welche in einigen Fächern ihre Kenntnisse aufzufrischen oder dieselben zu erweitern wünschen, ebenso diplomirte Krankenpflegerinnen, welche zum Beispiel nur den Cursus in der Wochenpflege mitmachen wollen, finden hierzu ebenfalls in der Anstalt Gelegenheit.

Das Nähere über die Bedingungen etc. ist bei dem Secretär Dr. Lobbell zu erfahren.

### Honorar.

- |                                   |         |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| 1) Einschreibgebühr .....         | \$ 5.00 |
| 2) Honorar für einen Curs .....   | 50.00   |
| 3) Zulasskarte zum Hospital ..... | 5.00    |

Für die Arbeit im Laboratorium muß ein Betrag von \$5.00 deponirt werden, welcher am Schluß des Curseß, nach Abzug etwaiger Entschädigung für beschädigtes Material, zurückerstattet wird.





PLAYFAIR LYING-IN FREE DISPENSARY,

169 SOUTH CLARK STREET,

Between Madison and Monroe Streets.

Physicians and Trained Nurses furnished free to all cases of labor, among the deserving poor, in any part of the city. Homeless cases will be admitted to the Hospital upon application at the office.

EFFIE L. LOBDELL, M. D., Sec'y,  
and Superintendent of Out Practice.

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